

U.S. Senator Judd Gregg, Chairman

Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions

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Chairman Gregg Introduces Bill to Aid Libraries and Museums

Washington, DC – Senator Judd Gregg (R-NH), Chairman of the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions introduced on Friday, April 11, 2003 a bipartisan bill that will provide much needed federal support to our libraries and museums. Specifically, the "Museum and Library Services Act of 2003" authorizes \$250 million for libraries and \$41.5 million for museums in 2004. In addition, the bill would double the minimum amount states would receive in grants for their libraries.

"Libraries and museums serve as important cultural institutions in communities all around our nation. I benefited from the local library in my community growing up, and by reauthorizing this funding we will continue to ensure the preservation of our libraries and museums for generations to come," Chairman Gregg said.

"I am also pleased that this bill will coordinate its action with the school library provisions of the No Child Left Behind Act. I expect to move this legislation through the HELP Committee soon, and look forward to its speedy passage," said Chairman Gregg.

The "Museum and Library Services Act of 2003" or S. 888 is cosponsored by a growing list of senators including Senators Reed (D-RI), Frist (R-TN), Kennedy (D-MA), & Enzi (R-WY).

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